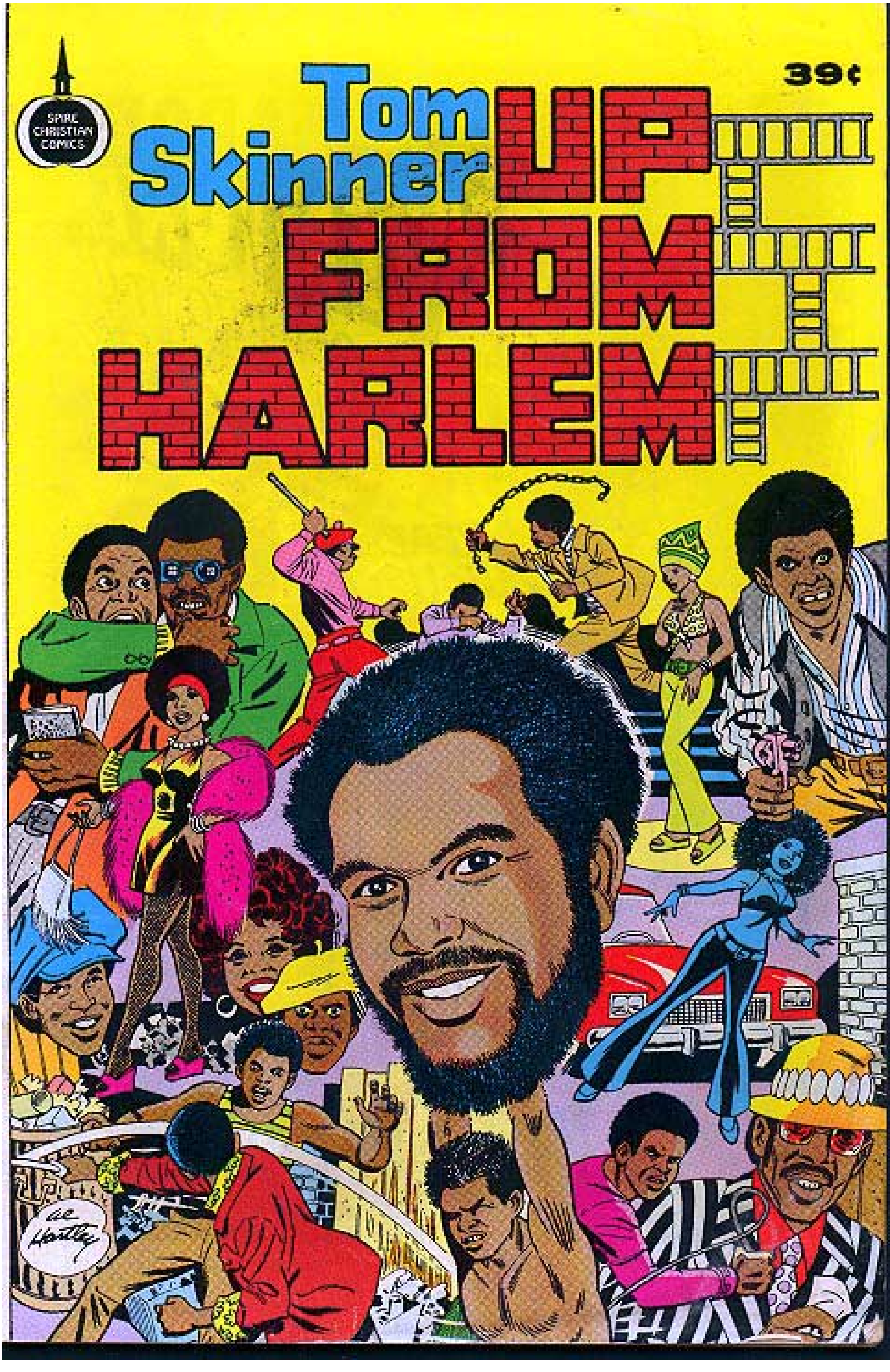
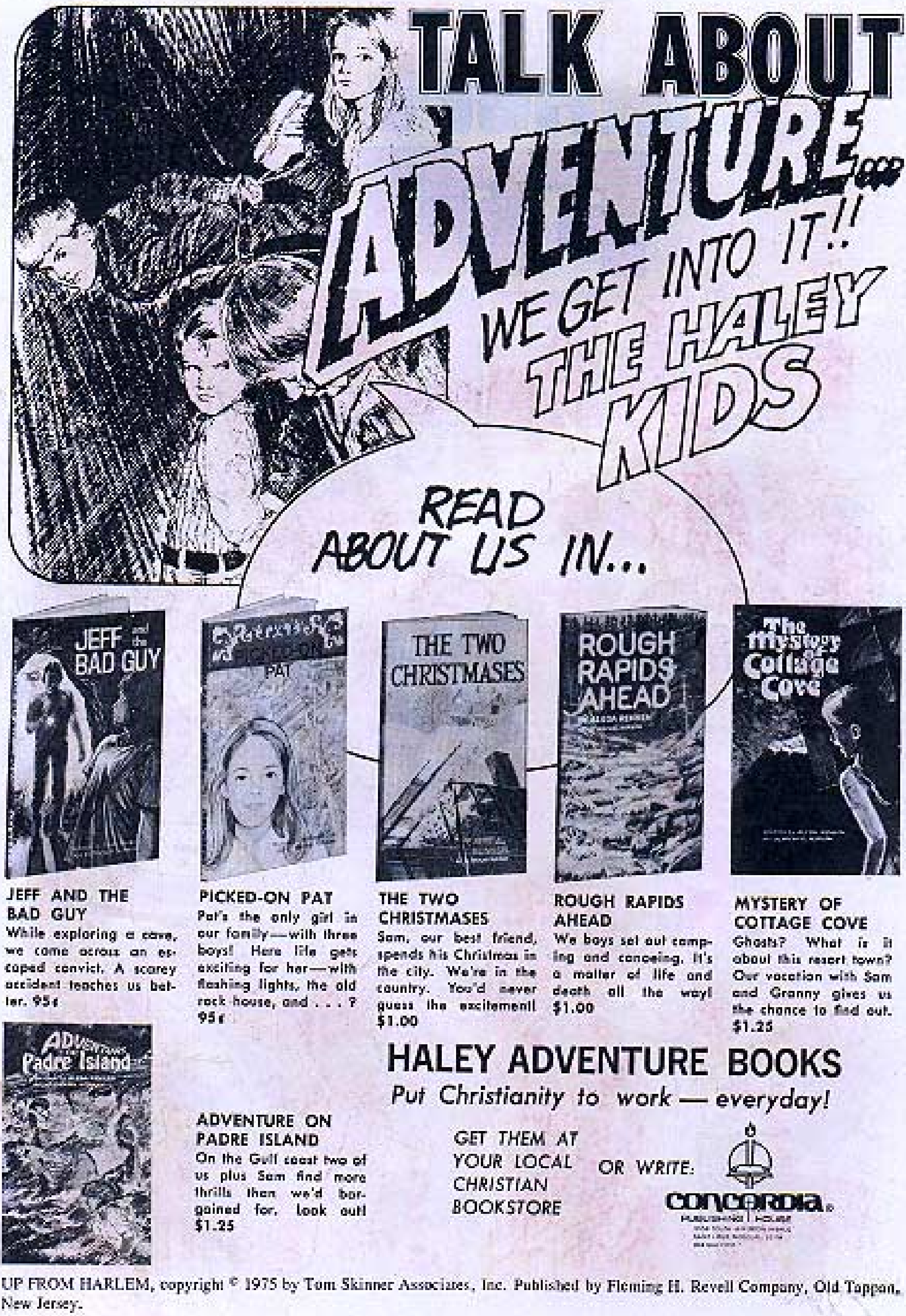
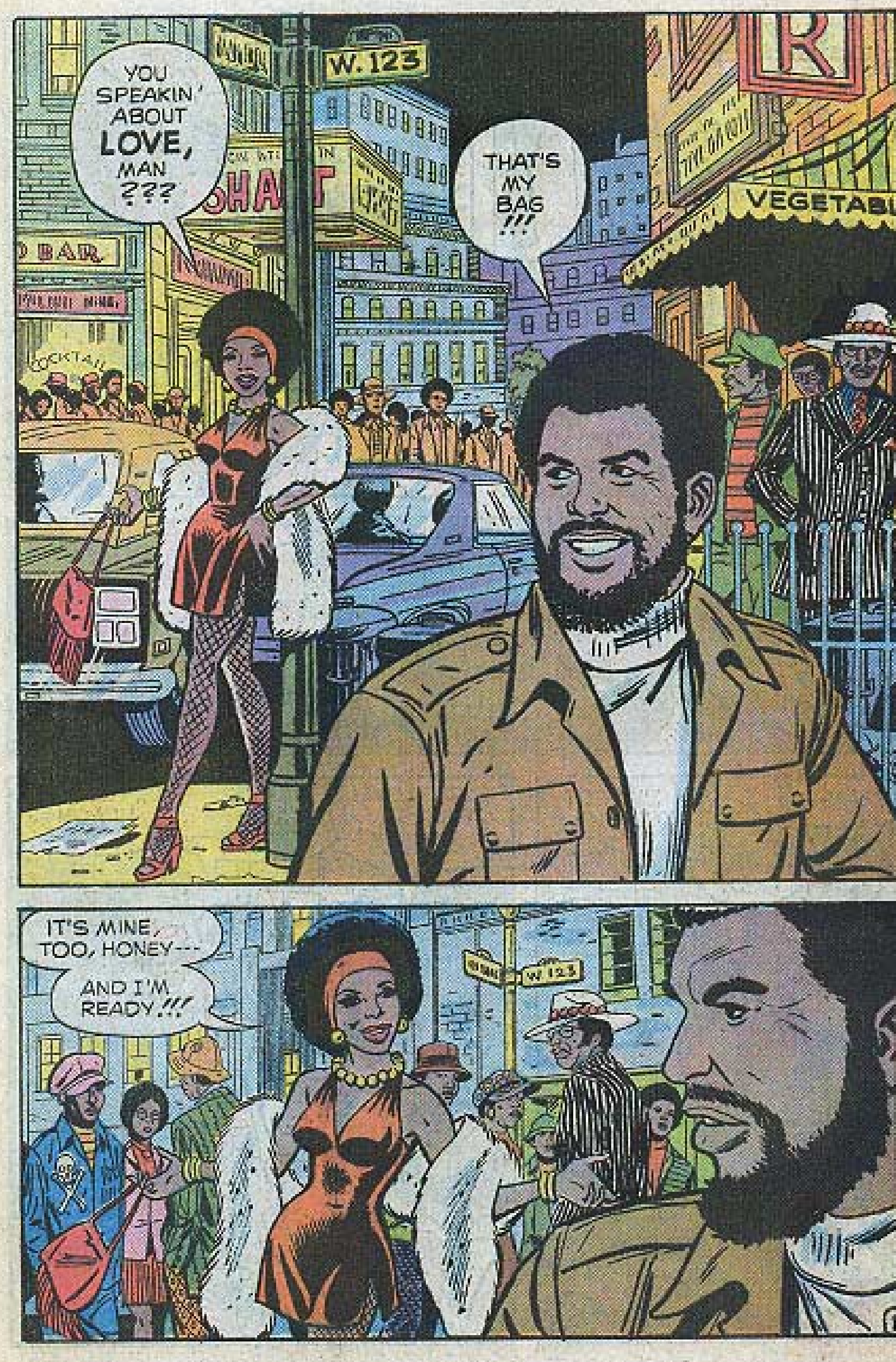
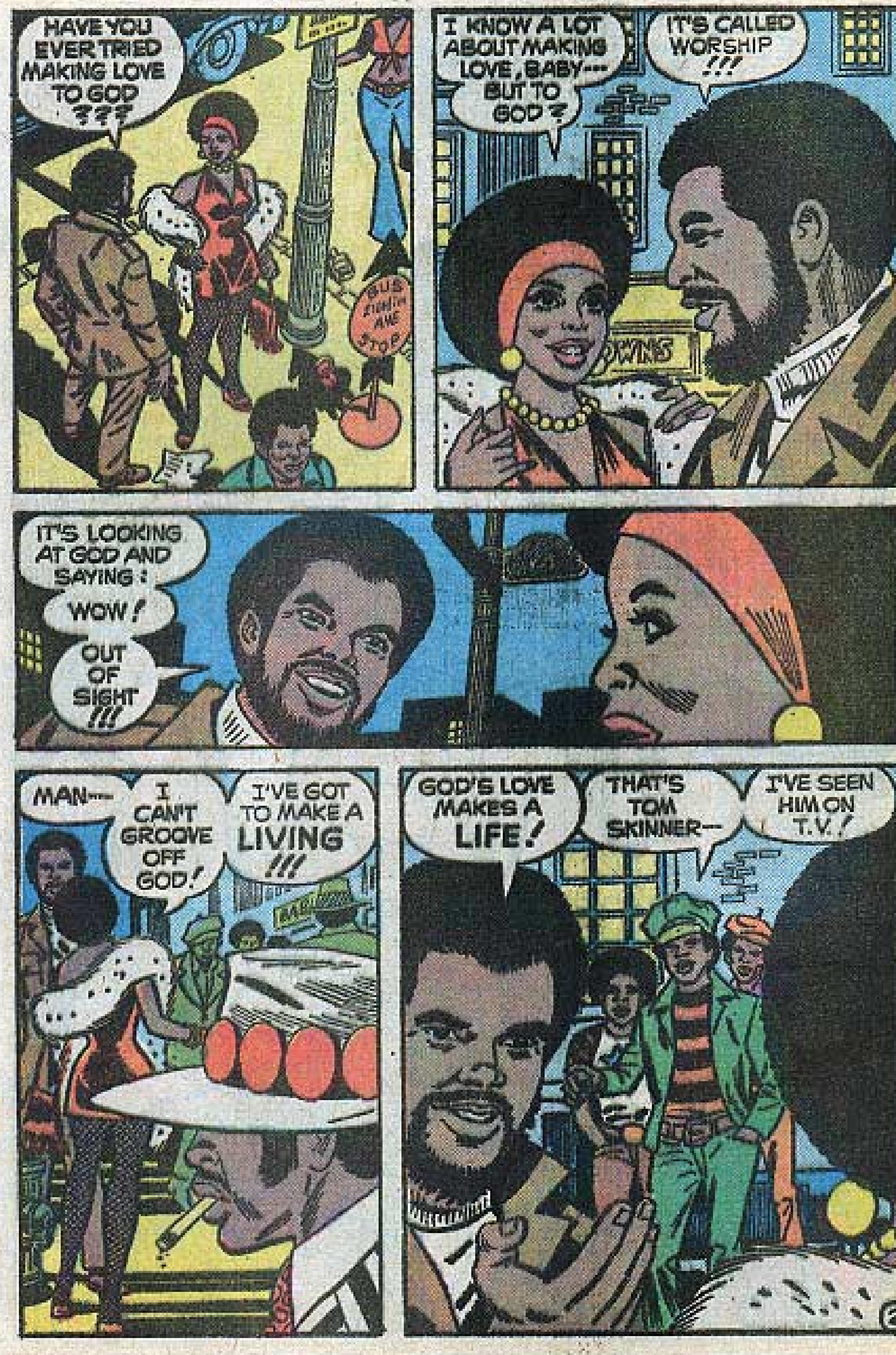

SPIRE CHRISTIAN COMICS
39¢
Tom Skinner
UP FROM HARLEM
Al Hartley



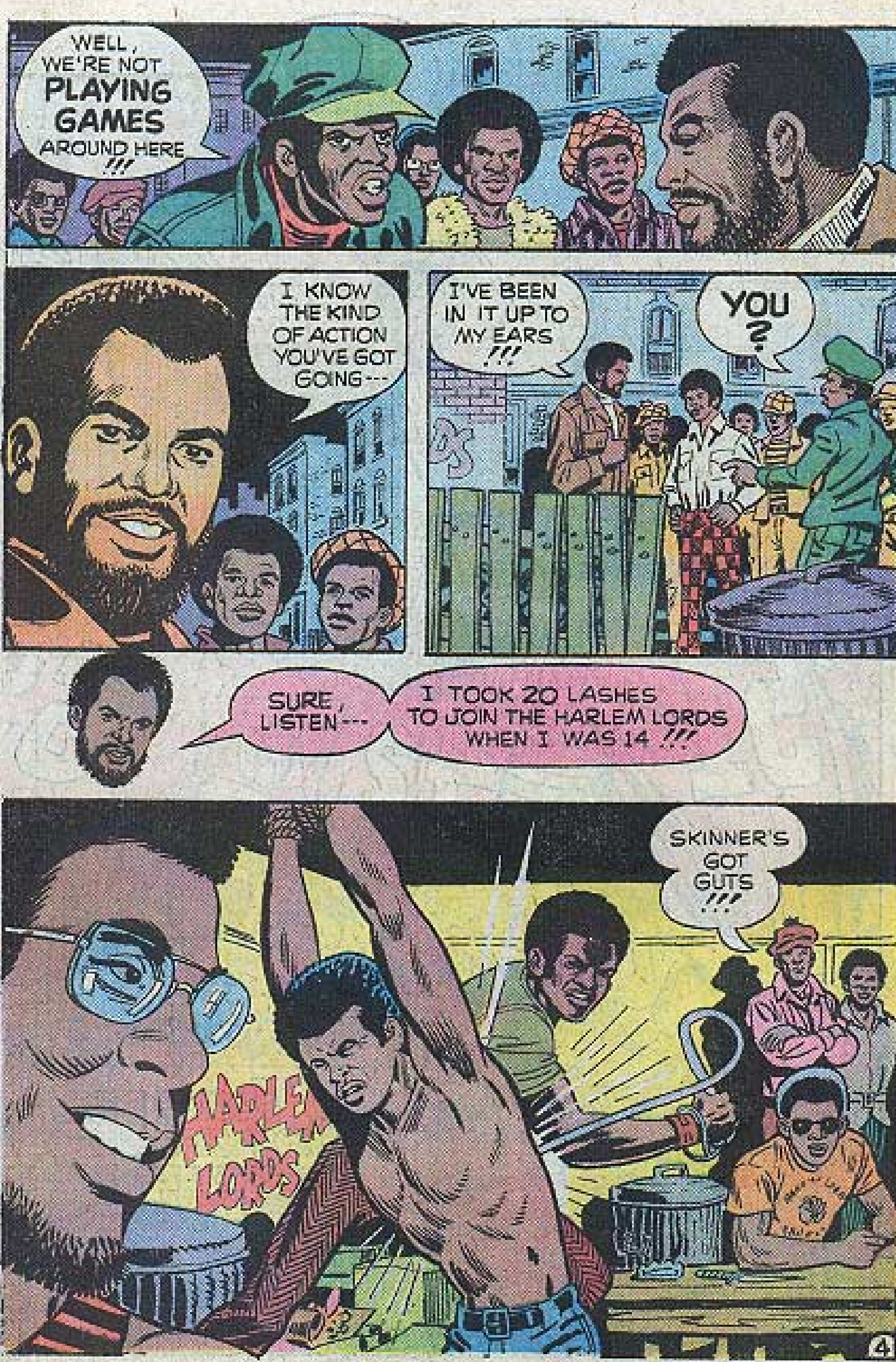
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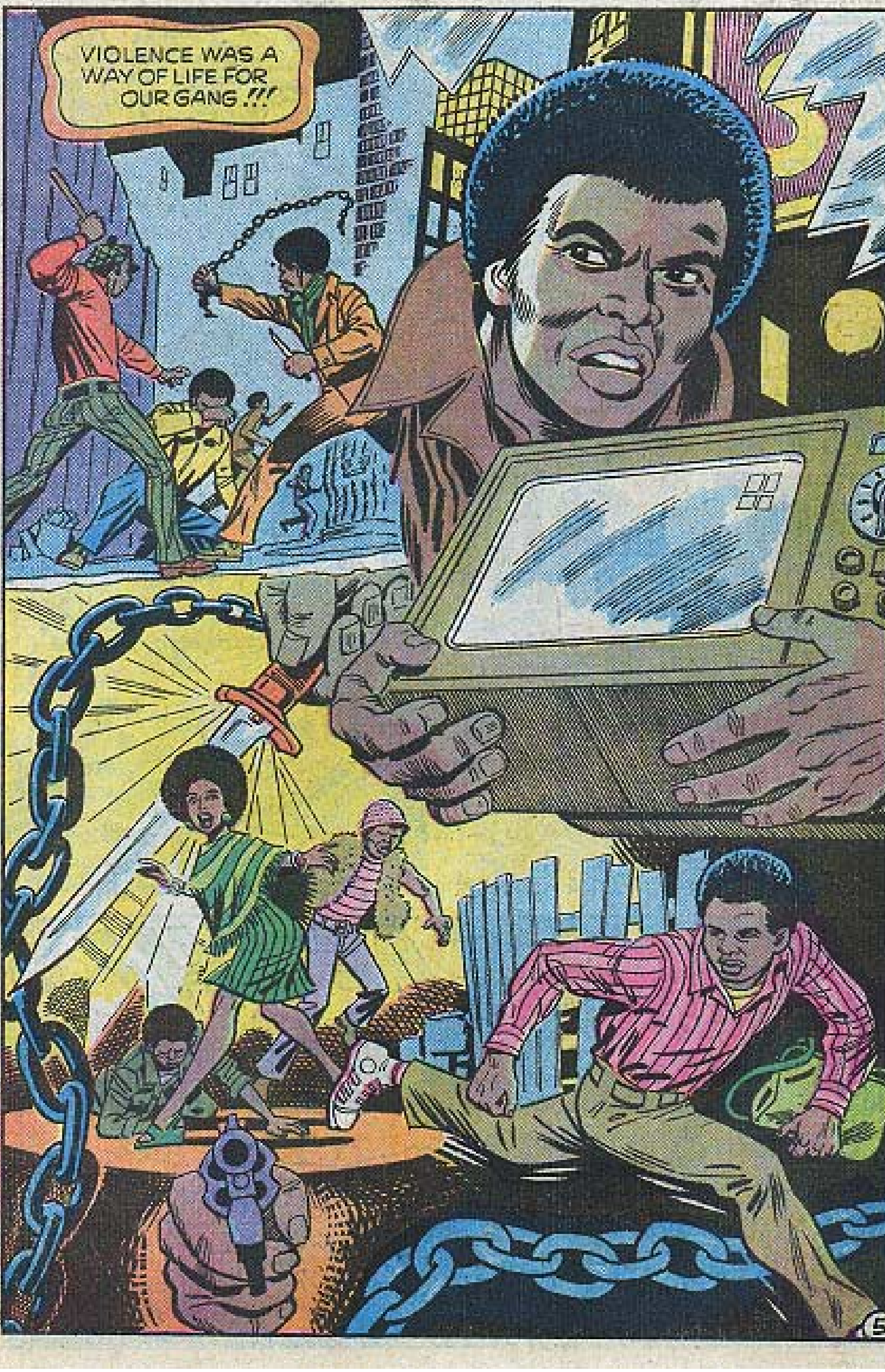

W. 123
YOU SPEAKIN' ABOUT LOVE, MAN ???
THAT'S MY BAG !!!
VEGETAB
BAR
COCKTAIL
IT'S MINE, TOO, HONEY---
AND I'M READY !!!
W 123
1

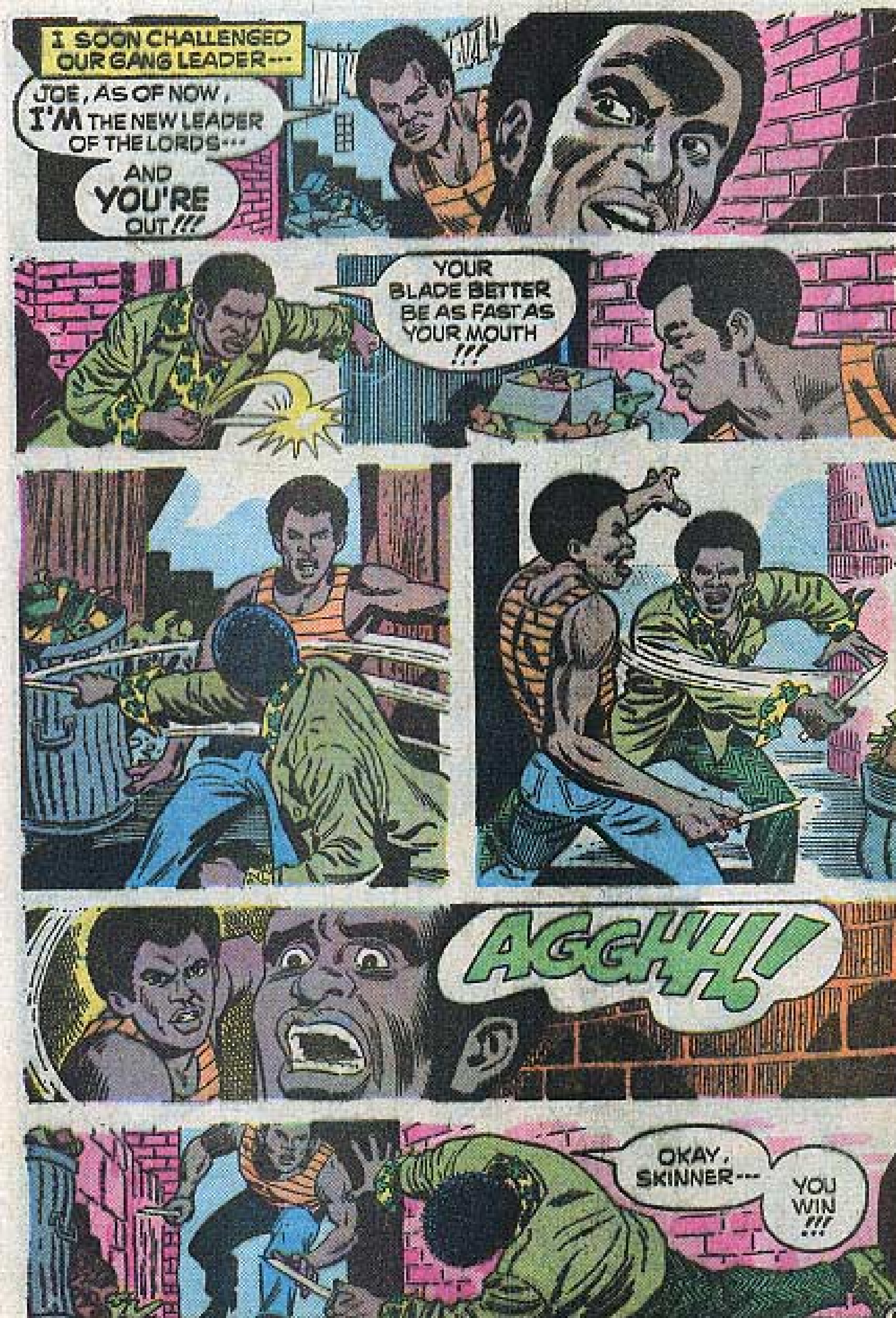

HAVE YOU EVER TRIED MAKING LOVE TO GOD ???
BUS STOP
I KNOW A LOT ABOUT MAKING LOVE, BABY--- BUT TO GOD ?
IT'S CALLED WORSHIP !!!
IT'S LOOKING AT GOD AND SAYING :
WOW !
OUT OF SIGHT !!!
MAN---
I CAN'T GROOVE OFF GOD!
I'VE GOT TO MAKE A LIVING !!!
GOD'S LOVE MAKES A LIFE!
THAT'S TOM SKINNER--
I'VE SEEN HIM ON T.V. !
2



WHEN THE WASHINGTON REDSKINS WON THE PLAY-OFFS--- HE LED THE TEAM IN PRAYER!
HE'S THE REDSKIN'S CHAPLAIN! THE WHOLE COUNTRY HEARD HIM PRAY!!!
LORD, WE THANK YOU FOR THIS VICTORY---
OVER 40 MILLION TV SETS CAUGHT THIS SCENE!
Tom Skinner UP FROM HARLEM
3


WELL, WE'RE NOT **PLAYING GAMES** AROUND HERE !!!
I KNOW THE KIND OF ACTION YOU'VE GOT GOING---
I'VE BEEN IN IT UP TO MY EARS !!!
YOU ?
SURE, LISTEN---
I TOOK 20 LASHES TO JOIN THE HARLEM LORDS WHEN I WAS 14 !!!
SKINNER'S GOT GUTS !!!
4


VIOLENCE WAS A WAY OF LIFE FOR OUR GANG !!!


I SOON CHALLENGED OUR GANG LEADER---
JOE, AS OF NOW, I'M THE NEW LEADER OF THE LORDS---
AND YOU'RE OUT!!!
YOUR BLADE BETTER BE AS FAST AS YOUR MOUTH!!!
AGGHH!
OKAY, SKINNER---
YOU WIN!!!
6

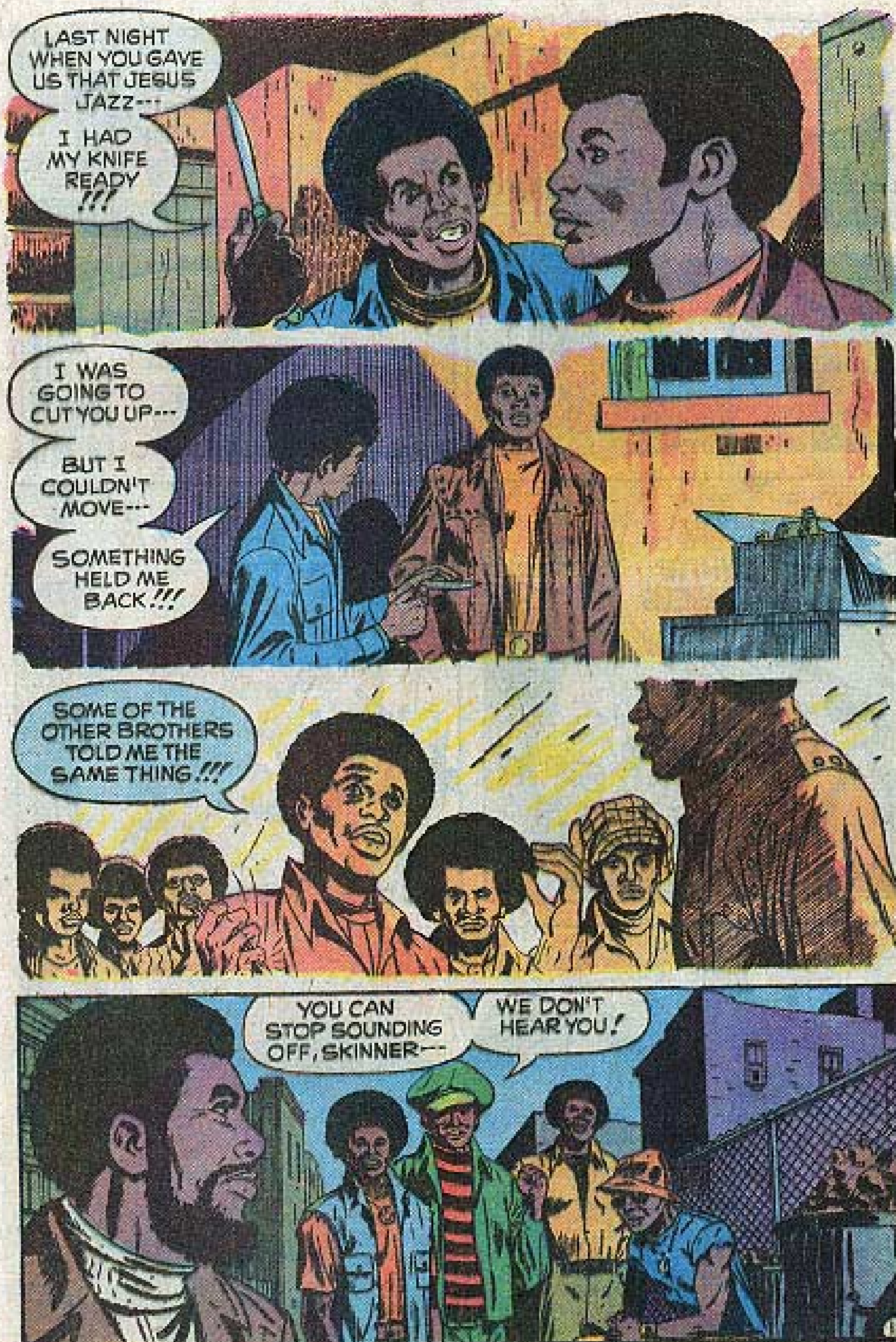

MAN! THAT TOM SKINNER'S REALLY GOT IT TOGETHER!!!
IF WE PULL OFF THIS RUMBLE TOMORROW, WE'LL BE NUMBER ONE IN HARLEM!!!
RIGHT ON!!!
THE FUZZ WILL FREAK OUT!!!
THERE'LL BE 3,000 CATS IN ON THIS!!!
WHAT ABOUT TONIGHT, TOM---
ANY RIP-OFFS???
NO---
I'VE GOT TO PREPARE OUR STRATEGY FOR TOMORROW!!!
I'LL DIG SOME ROCK WHILE I PLAN!!!
CLIK!



GOD LOVES YOU, MAN---
HE KNOWS WHAT YOU'RE INTO--- BUT HE STILL LOVES YOU---
WHERE'S MY ROCK ???
AND HE SENT HIS SON JESUS CHRIST TO FORGIVE YOU---
AND TO GIVE YOU A BRAND-NEW LIFE!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO STRUGGLE TO PROVE ANYTHING---
YOU CAN BE GOD'S SON RIGHT NOW---
JUST TRUST JESUS---
JESUS---
I DON'T DIG YOU---



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO IN MY LIFE---
--- BUT IF WHAT I'M HEARING IS TRUE, I'LL TRUST YOU WITH MY WHOLE LIFE!
SO WHAT DID GOD DO???
SEND YOU A COUPLE OF WHITE ANGELS???
LET ME TELL YOU---
HE WAS THERE WHEN I TOLD MY GANG I WAS FINISHED WITH VIOLENCE!!!
HOW DO YOU KNOW GOD WAS THERE?
ONE OF THE BROTHERS TOLD ME---
HEY, TOM---
I WANNA RAP---
9

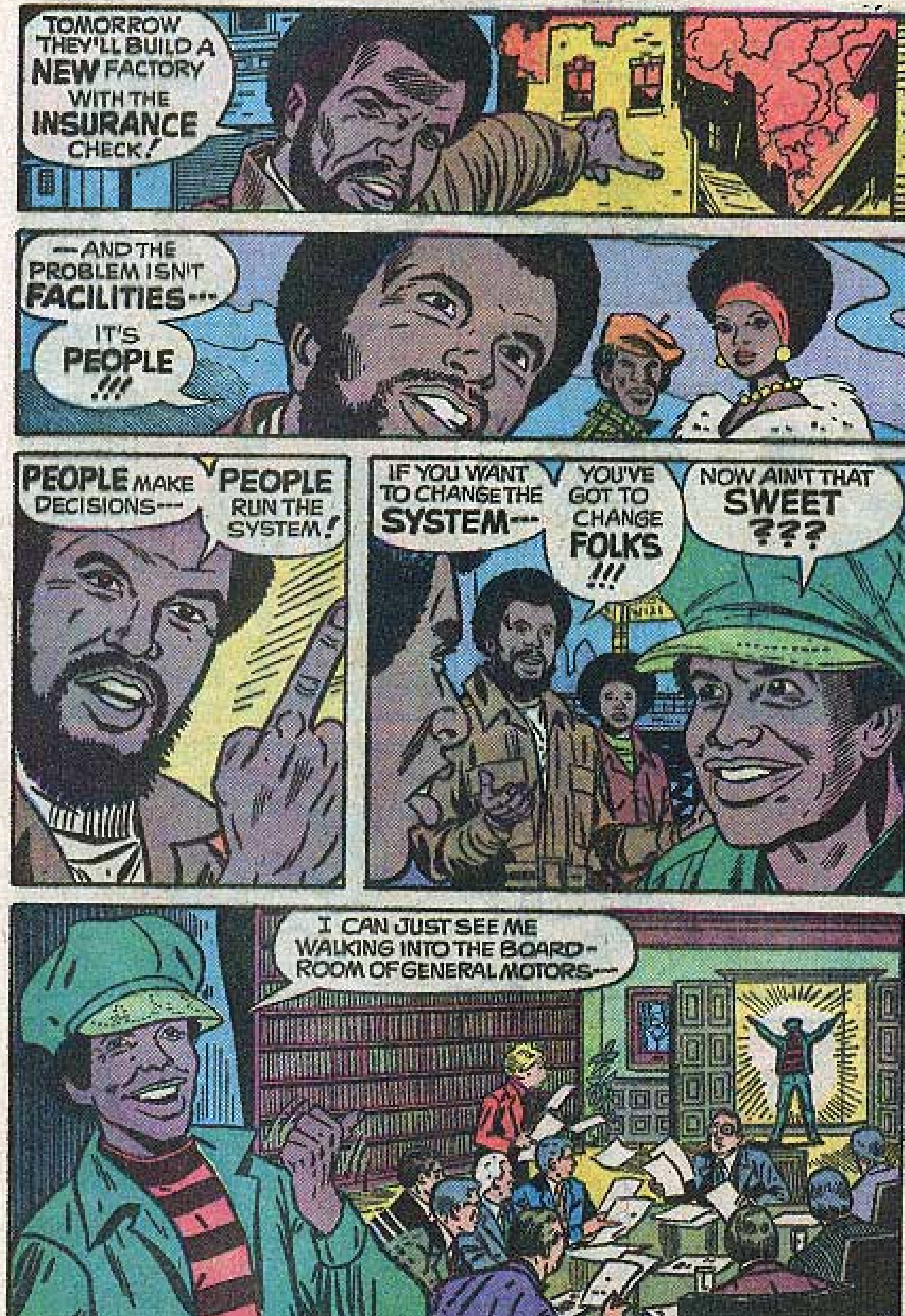


LAST NIGHT WHEN YOU GAVE US THAT JESUS JAZZ---
I HAD MY KNIFE READY!!!
I WAS GOING TO CUT YOU UP---
BUT I COULDN'T MOVE---
SOMETHING HELD ME BACK!!!
SOME OF THE OTHER BROTHERS TOLD ME THE SAME THING!!!
YOU CAN STOP SOUNDING OFF, SKINNER---
WE DON'T HEAR YOU!
10

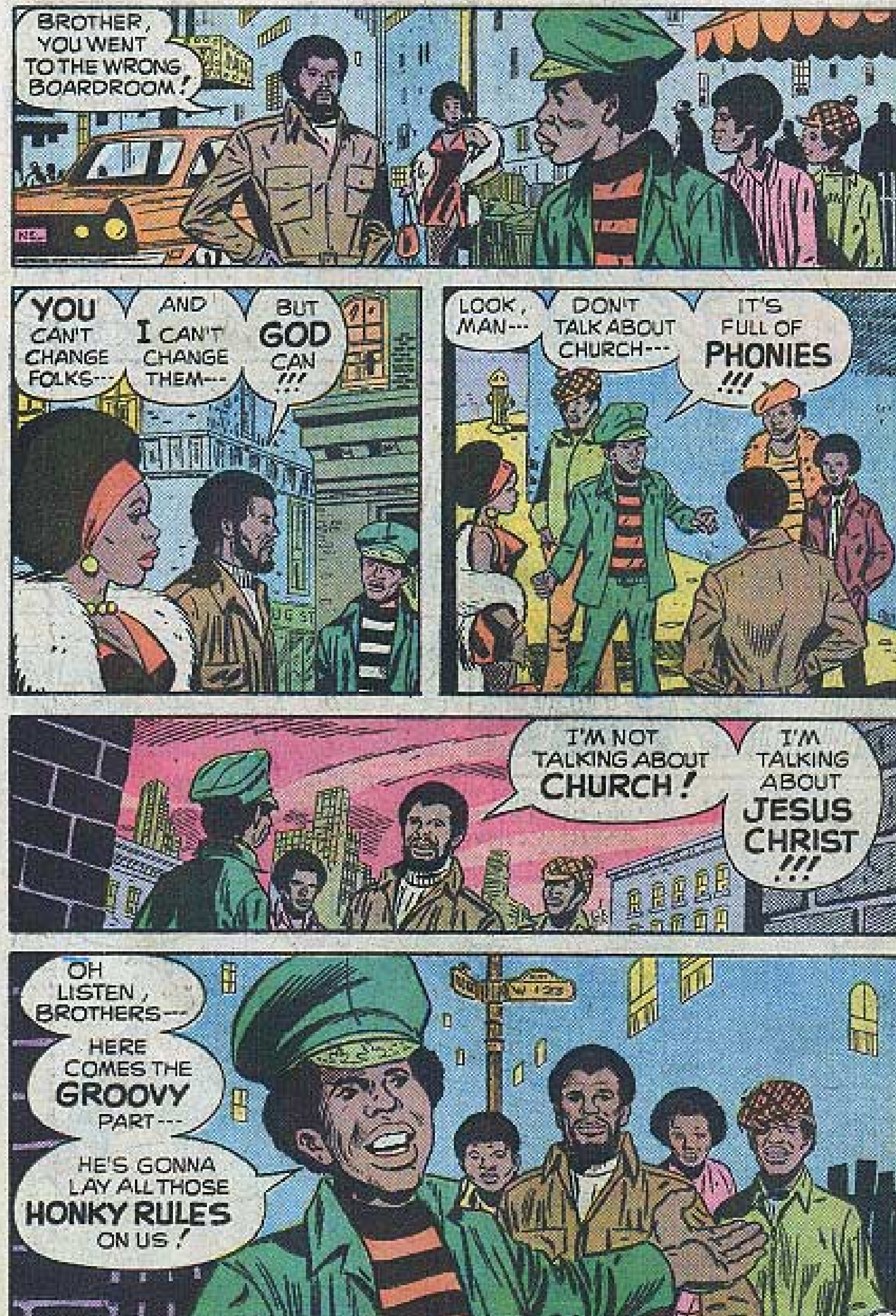

WE DON'T NEED NO UNCLE TOM CAT PREACHIN' HONKY RELIGION AT US !!!
MAN, DON'T YOU KNOW GOD IS NEITHER BLACK NOR WHITE ???
WELL, GOD'S NOT RUNNING THINGS---
THE SYSTEM IS---
AND THE SYSTEM'S LILY-WHITE !!!
SO I'M NOT LOOKIN' OUT FOR JESUS---
I'M LOOKIN' OUT FOR THREE MAIN PEOPLE---
ME---
MYSELF---
AND I !!!
11


AND WE'RE GONNA BUST THE SYSTEM !!!
CHEMICAL MANUFACTURING CO.
BOOOM!
WE'RE GONNA BLOW THOSE FAT CATS OUT OF THEIR FANCY OFFICES !!!


LET'S SEE HOW THE ROTTEN OPPRESSIVE SYSTEM HANDLES THAT !!!
WAIT A MINUTE, BROTHER---
YOU DIDN'T GIVE ME THE WHOLE AGENDA !!!
HUH ???
WHAT COMES NEXT ???
WHAT KIND OF A SYSTEM ARE YOU GOING TO BUILD ???
I'M NOT ABOUT TO SPILL MY BLOOD FOR A DEAL THAT DOESN'T KNOW WHERE IT'S GOING !!!
BESIDES---
YOU'VE ONLY CHANGED THE LANDSCAPE---
NOT THE SYSTEM !!!
15


TOMORROW THEY'LL BUILD A NEW FACTORY WITH THE INSURANCE CHECK!
---AND THE PROBLEM ISN'T FACILITIES---
IT'S PEOPLE !!!
PEOPLE MAKE DECISIONS---
PEOPLE RUN THE SYSTEM!
IF YOU WANT TO CHANGE THE SYSTEM---
YOU'VE GOT TO CHANGE FOLKS !!!
NOW AIN'T THAT SWEET ???
I CAN JUST SEE ME WALKING INTO THE BOARD-ROOM OF GENERAL MOTORS---
14


THEY'D GIVE ME A NICE, BIG WELCOME, NATURALLY!!!
BOYS, I DIDN'T BRING A BOMB---
'CAUSE BROTHER TOM SAID THAT AIN'T POLITE---
--- BUT I'D LIKE A PIECE OF THE ACTION!!!
FOR STARTERS, YOU CAN PUT MY NAME ON A PURPLE CADDY---
--AND MY GIRL WILL SETTLE FOR A YELLOW CHEVVY!!!
MAN, THOSE CATS WOULD KICK ME OUT OF SIGHT!!!
15



BROTHER, YOU WENT TO THE WRONG BOARDROOM!
YOU CAN'T CHANGE FOLKS---
AND I CAN'T CHANGE THEM---
BUT GOD CAN!!!
LOOK, MAN---
DON'T TALK ABOUT CHURCH---
IT'S FULL OF PHONIES!!!
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT CHURCH!
I'M TALKING ABOUT JESUS CHRIST!!!
OH LISTEN, BROTHERS---
HERE COMES THE GROOVY PART---
HE'S GONNA LAY ALL THOSE HONKY RULES ON US!

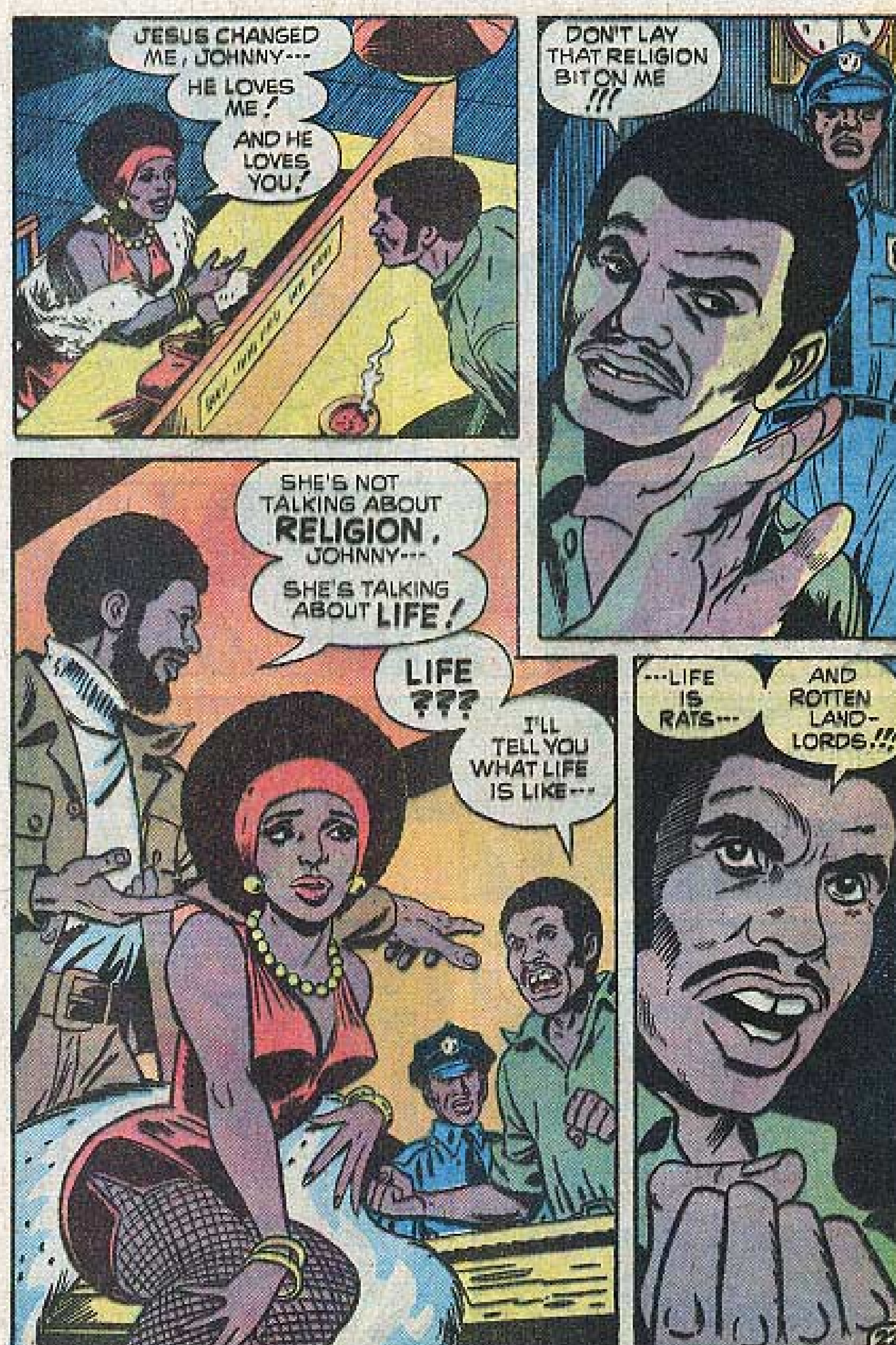

THE DUDE WANTS US TO PLAY SUNDAY SCHOOL!
DON'T SMOKE!
DON'T DRINK!
DON'T LOOK AT GIRLS!
AND IF WE PLAY NICE WE'LL ALL TURN INTO ANGELS!!!
SOME MAN MADE UP THOSE RULES---
JESUS GIVES US ONLY ONE RULE---
LOVE!
HE WANTS US TO LOVE EACH OTHER---
THE WAY HE LOVES US!
AND HE LOVES US---
JUST THE WAY WE ARE!
17

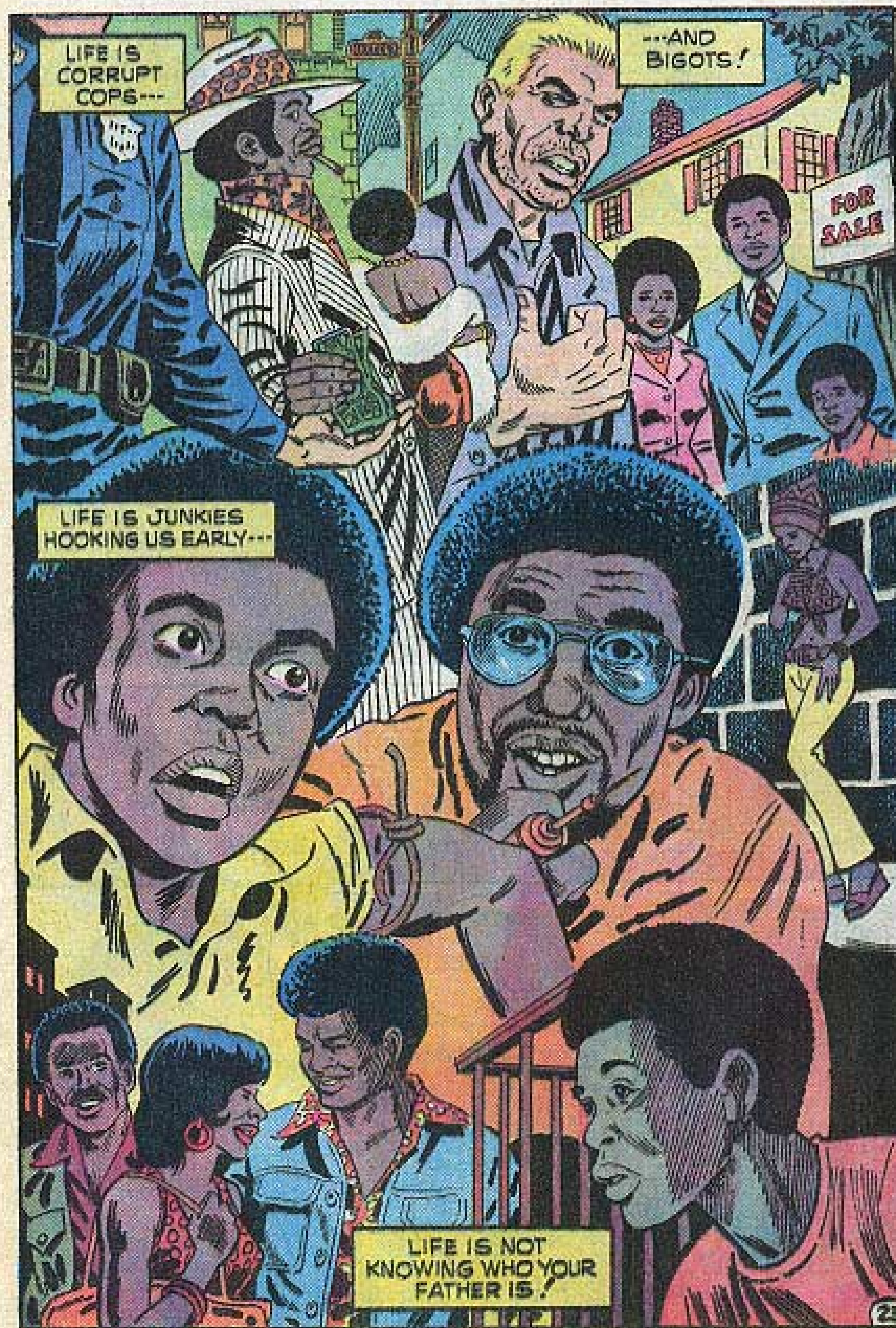

HE DOESN'T SAY:
GET YOURSELF TOGETHER---
AND COME TO ME---
HE SAYS:
COME TO ME---
AND I'LL PUT IT TOGETHER FOR YOU !!!
AND, BROTHER, I NEED FOLKS TO LOVE ME THE WAY I AM !!!
TOM---
I WANT THAT KIND OF LOVE, TOO!
COME WITH ME, PLEASE !!!
ALL MY LIFE I'VE BEEN PLAYING WITH LOVE---
18


THE LOVE I GIVE TONIGHT WILL BE DIFFERENT!
COME IN, TOM---
YOU'LL LIKE IT!
GRANDMA---
WHO'S THERE ???
IT'S ME! CORA !!!
CORA CHILD !!!
IT'S BEEN SO LONG !!!
19


HOW ARE YOU, CHILD ???
FINE, GRANDMA---
I'M READY TO MEET YOUR JESUS !!!
OH, I'VE PRAYED SO LONG !!!
WELL, YOUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED !!!
I KNOW ALL ABOUT **MAN'S** LOVE ---
I WANT TO LEARN ABOUT **GOD'S** LOVE!
THANK YOU, JESUS !!!

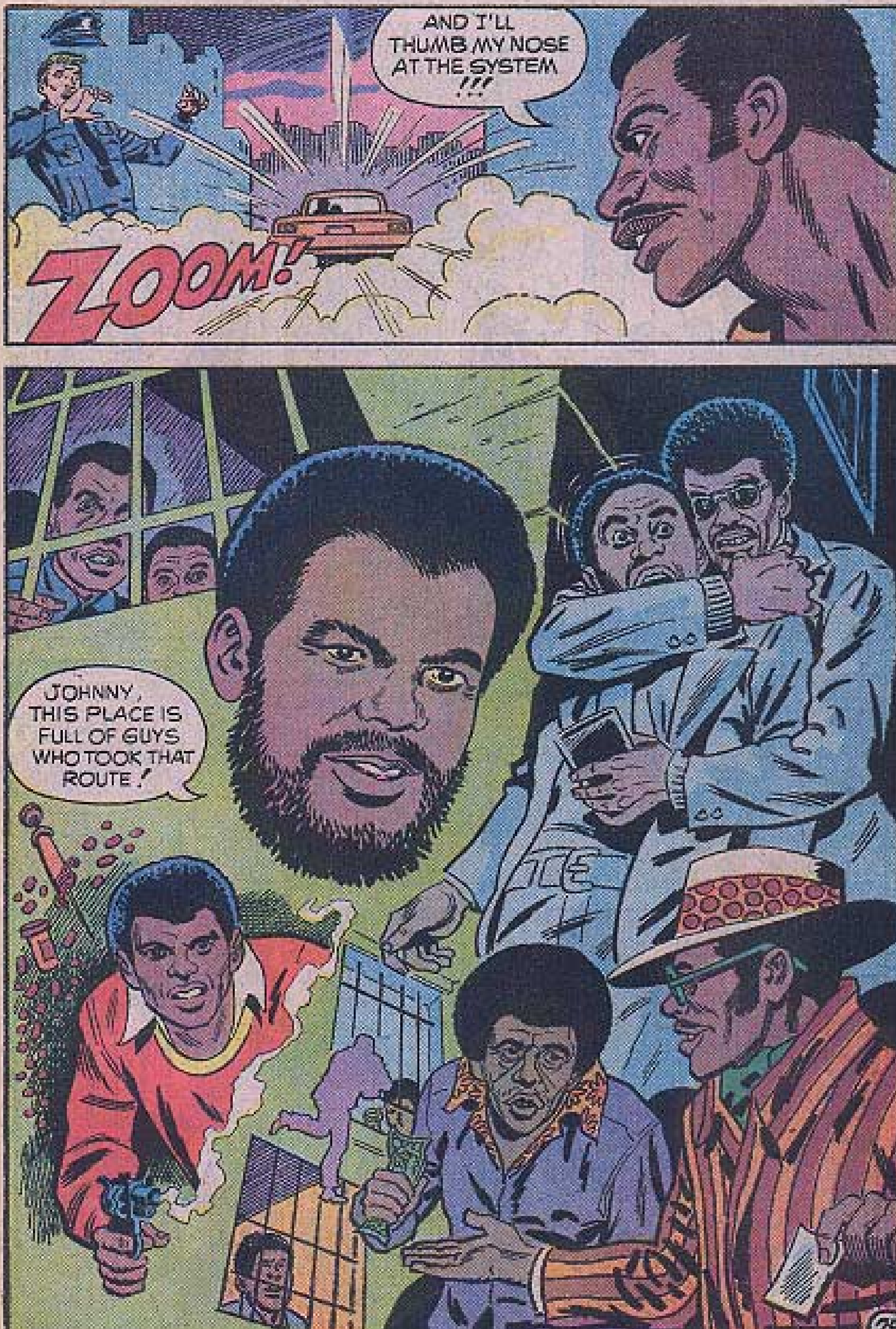

WHAT ABOUT YOUR BROTHER, CORA ???
HE'S IN PRISON !!!
I'VE BEEN PRAYING FOR HIM, TOO!
WILL YOU GO WITH ME, TOM---
AND TALK TO HIM?
LET'S GO!
YOU CAN HAVE A HALF-HOUR !!!
JOHNNY, I WANT YOU TO KNOW---
I'M OFF THE STREETS !!!
YEAH!?! SO AM I!
SHE'S TELLING IT STRAIGHT, JOHNNY---
SHE'S A NEW PERSON !!!
21


JESUS CHANGED ME, JOHNNY---
HE LOVES ME!
AND HE LOVES YOU!
DON'T LAY THAT RELIGION BIT ON ME!!!
SHE'S NOT TALKING ABOUT **RELIGION**, JOHNNY---
SHE'S TALKING ABOUT **LIFE**!
LIFE ???
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT LIFE IS LIKE---
---LIFE IS RATS---
AND ROTTEN LAND-LORDS!!!
22



LIFE IS CORRUPT COPS---
---AND BIGOTS!
FOR SALE
LIFE IS JUNKIES HOOKING US EARLY---
LIFE IS NOT KNOWING WHO YOUR FATHER IS!


THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE, JOHNNY---
JESUS SAYS LIFE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A RIP-OFF.!!!
HE WANTS TO LIVE IN HIS DISCIPLES---
AND MAKE THIS WORLD A BETTER PLACE THROUGH THEM!
I'VE GOT A BETTER DEAL ALL PLANNED, PAL---
WHEN I GET OUT OF HERE---
I'M GONNA GET INTO JUNK!
AND HUSTLE A BUNDLE !!!
I'LL GET ME A * WHITE DEUCE AND A QUARTER---
AND A LITTLE BLACK BEAUTY !!!
* ELECTRA 225


AND I'LL THUMB MY NOSE AT THE SYSTEM !!!
ZOOM!
JOHNNY, THIS PLACE IS FULL OF GUYS WHO TOOK THAT ROUTE!
25


TRY JESUS, JOHNNY!!!
SORRY--- I JUST DON'T DIG HIM!
BUT, CORA--- I'M GLAD FOR YOU!
DON'T GIVE UP ON HIM, CORA---
YOUR GRANDMOTHER DIDN'T GIVE UP ON YOU!
AND GOD PROMISES THAT WHEN YOU REALLY TRUST JESUS---
* EVERYONE IN YOUR FAMILY WILL COME AROUND!
* SEE ACTS 16:31
26


LOOK AT ALL THOSE BROTHERS AND SISTERS, TOM---
WHAT ABOUT THEM?
THEY'RE FAMILY, TOO!
JESUS DIED FOR EVERYONE OF THEM---
---AND WE'VE GOT TO SHOW THEM EXAMPLES OF WHAT CHRIST CAN DO WITH A LIFE!
TOM SKINNER ASSOCIATES
27


TOM, YOU'VE GOT TO GET TO THE TV STUDIO !!!
TOM SKINNER ASSOCIATES
CORA, I'LL SEND YOU SOME THINGS TO READ---
AND ONE OF THE GIRLS ON MY STAFF WILLGET IN TOUCH WITH YOU!
THANKS, TOM--- I'VE GOT A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT JESUS!
HEY, CORA!
YOU BETTER START HUSTLIN'!
CORA !!!
YOU HEAR ME?
NOT ANYMORE, LEROY---
I'M LISTENIN' TO MY LORD!
28



GIMME A STIFF ONE!
OUR GUEST TONIGHT IS TOM SKINNER---
TOM, YOU'VE BEEN PREACHING ALL OVER THE WORLD THAT CHRIST IS THE ANSWER---
---WHAT ARE THE QUESTIONS???
THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF THEM!
SOME PEOPLE ARE ASKING WHERE THEIR NEXT MEAL IS COMING FROM!
AND, THERE'S NO SENSE TELLING A MAN ABOUT GOD'S LOVE---
IF HIS STOMACH IS GROWLING SO LOUD HE CAN'T HEAR YOU!
TELEVISION


JESUS MADE IT CLEAR --- WE HAVE TO BE FED PHYSICALLY AS WELL AS SPIRITUALLY!
AND WE HAVE TO BE FED EMOTIONALLY, TOO!
JESUS KNOWS WHERE IT'S AT---
BECAUSE HE'S BEEN THERE!
NBS
HE SUFFERED BIGOTRY AND PERSECUTION!!!
--- AND YET HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO EVER LIVED THE WAY GOD WANTS US TO LIVE!!!
WNBS
Television
AND HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN WIPE OUT INJUSTICE, RACISM AND HATE!
30


NBS
JESUS ISN'T HUNG UP ON SKIN AND HAIR!
HE LOOKS AT OUR HEART!
HE WANTS TO GET RID OF ALL THE FEAR AND DOUBT
AND PUT LOVE AND MERCY IN ITS PLACE--
HE WANTS YOU TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL FAMILY OF GOD!
HE WANTS YOU TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE!



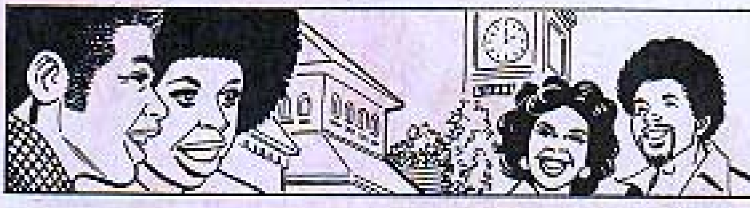
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU SAY ABOUT HOW THE WORLD NEEDS TO BE CHANGED---
NBS
YOU CAN'T CHANGE IT UNTIL YOU BEGIN WITH YOURSELF!
YOU'VE TRIED EVERYTHING ELSE---
GIVE GOD A CHANCE!!!
Holy Bible
LORD JESUS, COME INTO ME RIGHT NOW AND TAKE OVER MY LIFE!!!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN CHANGE THIS WORLD---
PLEASE START WITH ME!
IF YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT JESUS AND HIS LOVE, WRITE TO ME--- YOUR BROTHER,
Tom
TOM SKINNER
TOM SKINNER ASSOCIATES
P.O. BOX C
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11201

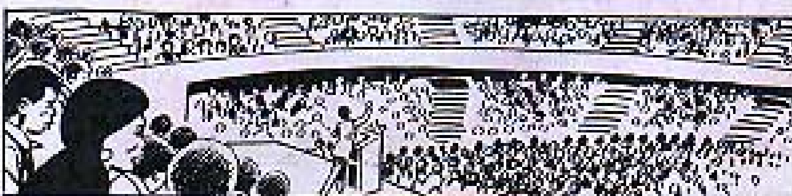
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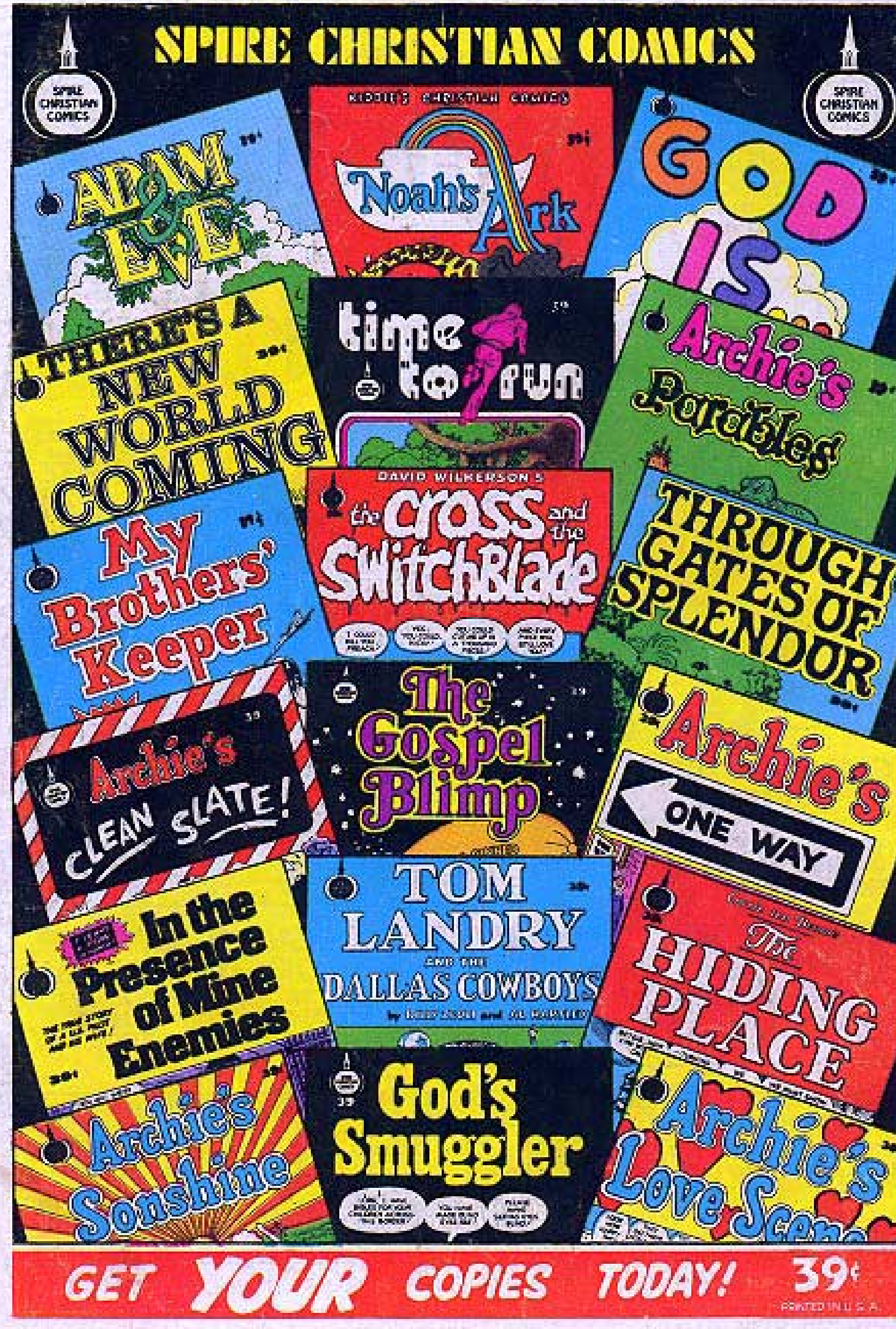
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Noah's Ark
GOD IS...
THERE'S A NEW WORLD COMING
time to run
Archie's Parables
DAVID WILKERSON'S
the Cross and the SwitchBlade
My Brothers' Keeper
THROUGH GATES OF SPLENDOR
Archie's CLEAN SLATE!
The Gospel Blimp
Archie's
ONE WAY
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